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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Albania

REPORT

SUBJECT Missile Sightings

DATE DISTR. 9 March 1961

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NO. PAGES

REFERENCES RD

DATE OF INFO.

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PLACE & DATE AC

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

(information on two truck-transported missiles observed proceeding toward Kavaje.) The report includes a sketch of the missile.

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(Note: Washington, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, NSA, FBI, ORR/I/GM X)

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Observation of 2 Missiles in

[redacted] observed by the lights of the escort vehicles two identical

missiles, each on a 7-ton SKODA truck. As shown in attached Sketch No 1

[redacted] the missiles were placed on special, fixed supports
on the body of the truck. The missiles were not covered. The truck was
not a mobile ramp but merely adapted for transport. The information on
the characteristic^s may be considered accurate because observation was made
at a distance of 10-15 meters while the convoy was moving at about a
walk and the headlights were ^{dim.} ~~on~~.

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(Observed) Characteristics

Use: Undetermined

Position: Undetermined

Producer Country: The convoy was coming from DURRES and heading toward KAVAJA; that is, toward the south of Albania. It is possible that the missiles had been unloaded from a Soviet vessel.

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Number of Stages: Single-stage

Shape: Cylindrical with constant diameter; conical nose in geometric proportion to the body of the missile. At the tail, a set of stabilizing fins of trapezoidal shape; number and dimensions undetermined.

Color: Very dark gray, opaque, similar to the color of vehicles used in the war; however, the nose was opaque white.

Markings: Not observed

Length: 7.50-8 meters. The missile was placed obliquely to the body of the truck and extended about one meter beyond the tail end of the body and 1-1.2 meters beyond the front end of the body. At the front, the nose of the missile reached to about the front end of the cab; at the rear, the part of the missile with the attached fins extended beyond the end of the truck body. The length of the bed of a SKODA truck is approximately 5.50 meters so the length of the missile is estimated at 7.50-8.00 meters.

Diameter: 35-40 centimeters.

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Total Weight: Not known. The capacity of the SKODA truck is 7 tons but heavier loads are carried and the truck handles them easily.

Additional Information of the Characteristics: None.

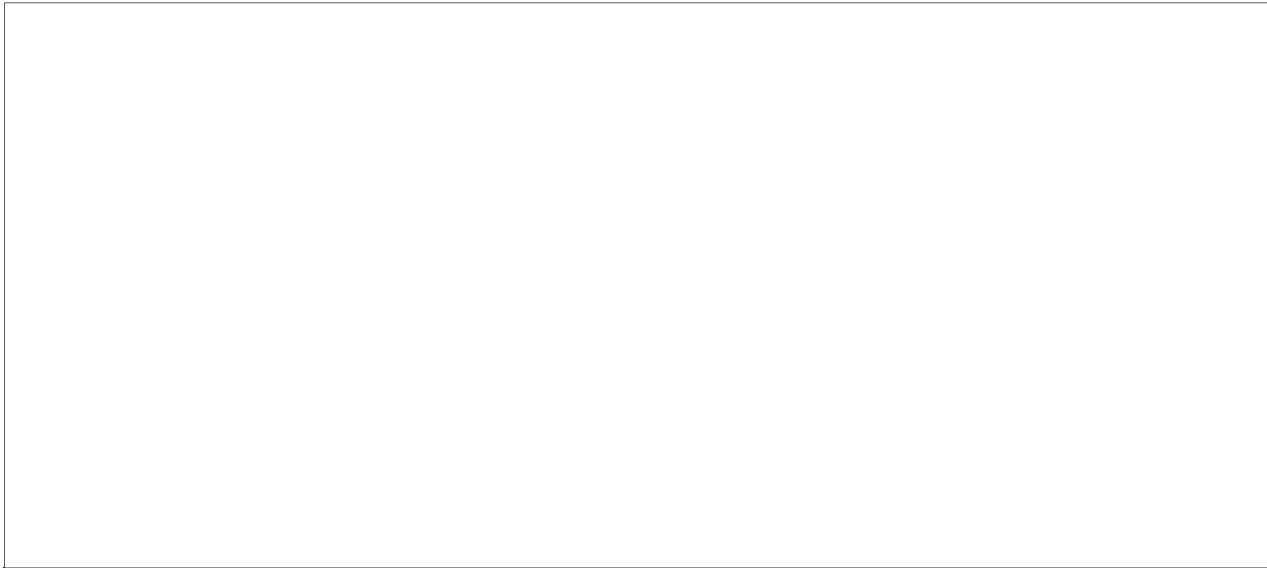
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Location

The convoy with the two missiles had left DURRES and had taken the turning toward KAVAIA - to the south of Albania. There are rumors that missile bases are probably located in the zone of VLORE.



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The VLORE-HIMARA

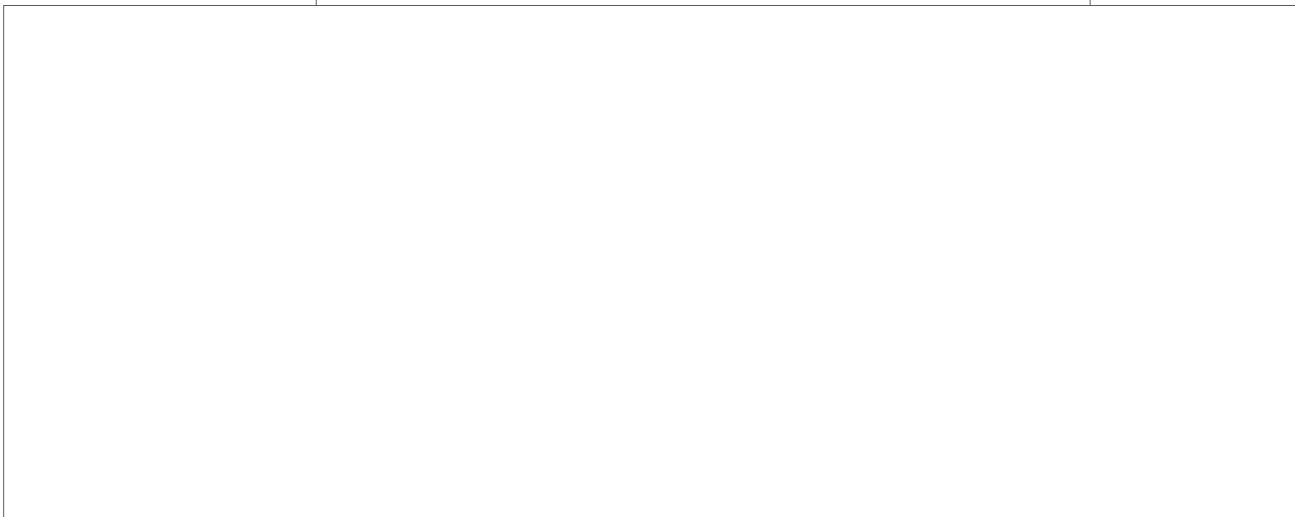
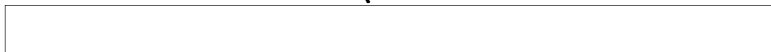
usable
road over this pass was made readily ~~usable~~ to traffic of motor vehicles in 1940-1941.

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bases for these missiles might be located in the area of the LLOGORA pass.

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It was drizzling. At 2330-2400 hours [redacted] a column of motor-vehicles coming from DURRES with dim lights and moving very slowly - about the speed of a man walking. A motorcycle (a messenger motorcycle with sidecar) broke away from the column [redacted]

[redacted] The motorcyclist [redacted] moved ahead and stopped an auto coming from KAVAIA, making it run on the edge of the road. The cyclist turned around and again joined the convoy which had taken the road to KAVAIA.

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When the convoy passed near the auto coming from KAVAIA, the motor-cycles in the escort surround the auto and blinded the occupants with their headlights so that they could not see the passing convoy. The convoy was made up of motorcycles with sidecar; two SKODA trucks, each with a missile; a jeep, and a truck with the guard. [redacted]

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Legend of sketch:

- a. Motorcycles with sidecar, carrying three members of the SEGURIMIT:
the two on the motorcycle armed with submachine guns and the one in the sidecar armed with a Soviet automatic rifle (D. P. -DEGTYAREV);

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the man in the sidecar stood with one foot on the step which had been attached to the front of the sidecar.

The driver was dressed in a coverall with a crash helmet with a shield with a red star. The other two were ^{officers}SIGURIMIT in uniform with visored berets with blue shields.

The motorcycles were Soviet, supplied 2-3 years ago and assigned to the army and SIGURIMIT.

- b, c. Two 7-ton SKODA trucks, each carrying an uncovered missile. On each truck, on both sides of the missile, two persons in raincoats were standing.
- d. Jeep with guard.
- e. GAZ - MOLOTOV 67 truck; no top; in the body of the truck there were about 20 SIGURIMIT officers were standing; they were in uniform and carried submachine guns.

An automatic rifle similar to the D. P. - DEGTYAREV was mounted on the cab of the truck.

Comment

The missiles

are very similar in shape and dimensions to those seen in POLAND in the area west of SZCZECIN

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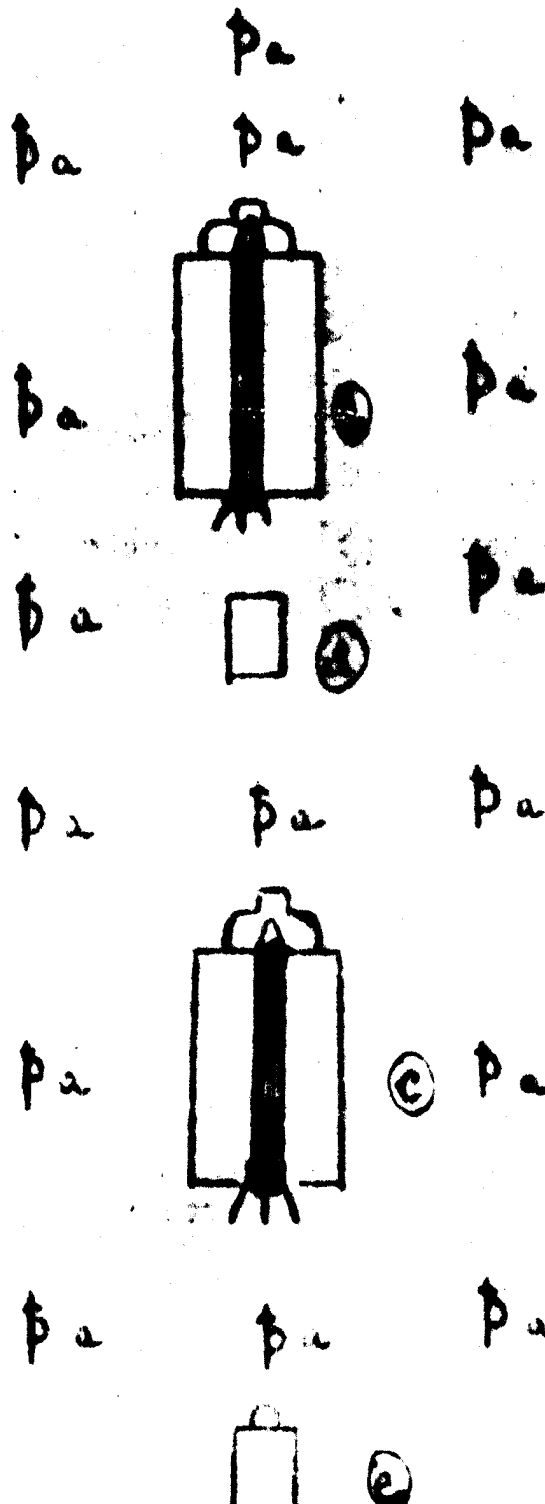
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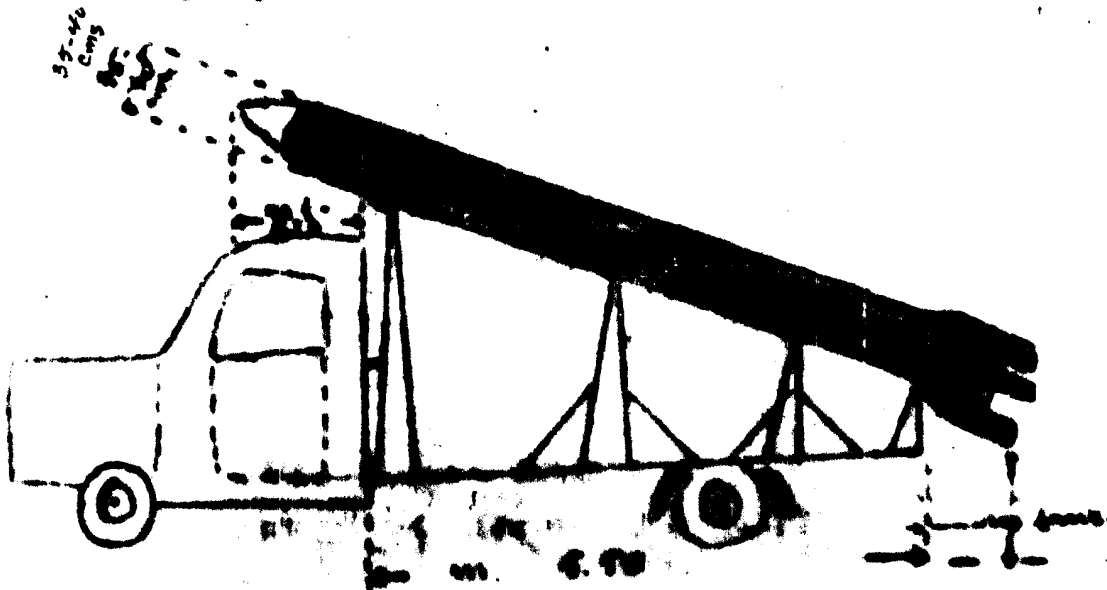
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Sketch of missiles transported from DURRES, toward the south of ALBANIA

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7-ton SKODA truck

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